SUBJECTS.

improved, would prove to be productive of the following benefits to the people of Thiruvella and Changanacheri.

(1) There would be ample water convenience to the paddy fields of Ezhuyillam and Payipadu.

(2) The cultivation of the Kaviyoor *punja* fields, the produce of which was destroyed by inundations, could be carried on conveniently.

(3) The Kuttanad lands might be cultivated every year, instead of, as at present, once in two years.

(4) The forest produce available on the banks of the Manimala river could be easily brought down to the Changanacheri market.

(5) Branches of trees, greatly needed for the upkeep of the *chiras* of the paddy fields, could be easily got down.

(6) The Kuttanad lands would be fertilized by the alluvium washed down by the rivers during floods.

The Member then suggested that the canal might be improved under one of the following conditions, viz, (1) the recovery from the ryots of a portion of the outlay to be incurred, or (2) the payment to the Government of the interest on the amount that might now be expended, for as many years as the Government might now intend to postpone the execution of the work.

The Member also proposed that arrangements might be made for affording facilities to the ryots in the matter of getting loans under the Agricultural Improvement Loans Regulation and that the present Director of Agriculture might be appointed as an Irrigation Officer to enquire into and report on the conditions of the agriculturists who might apply for loans.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

Construction of a lock in the Pathiyur canal to prevent damage to crops by the influx of brackish water from the Kayenkulam lake.

Mr. Sankaran Kochukunju Channar (Member, Nominated) said that the crops and cocoanut plantations were being damaged by the inrush of salt water from the Kayenkulam lake in the hot season. The construction of a lock at Pattukadavu in the Pathiyur canal would prevent the influx of salt water, which would not only help the cultivators, but also supply pure water for cattle and men to drink.

Dewan.—The matter will be looked into.

Construction of a surplus sluice at the lower end of the Melamaruthukulam tank in Valavachathottam *pakuthi* to prevent damage by submergence.

Mr. C. Madhaven Pillai, B. A. (Member, Kalkulam taluk) stated that it might seem anomalous to speak about damage by submersion, when the cry in South Travancore was for water. The Pamboorni channel was a water-course about 10 miles in length, which dried up during most part of the year.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

SUBJECTS.

During the monsoons, however, it was no less devastating than any stream in North Travancore, the reason being that it had been gradually silting up of late and water in the *yelas* was drained into it; consequently the adjoining lands were submerged. Cultivation had to be given up and there was no crop last year in the locality on this account. The Member further said that the reasonableness of his request was approved of by the Irrigation Engineer. The people of the place were willing to bear half the cost of putting up a sluice to prevent this damage.

Dewan.—The matter will be looked into. The Peishkar says that the work may be done, because, after all, in this case, the expenditure would not come to more than Rs. 300.

Improving the banks of the Kodayar channels in Nanjanad.

Mr. Ramaswamy Meenakshi Chettiyar (Member, Nagercoil Trading Classes) stated that, in some parts of the canal side, especially in the Ananthankulam canal, want of cartable roads caused great difficulty to the ryots in the matter of the transport of manure to, and paddy and other produce from, the fields. At present these were carried by coolies at great inconvenience and loss. The Member said further that, considering the enormous outlay on the Kodayar project, the Government should not grudge the small expenditure that might be necessary for the improvement of the roads on both sides of the canal, which afforded great facilities to the cultivators. He prayed therefore that the banks of the canals be broadened and improved so as to make them cartable.

Dewans' reply.—Noted.

51. Certain works for affording facilities for trade in Quilon.

Mr. K. A. Krishna Pattar (Member, Quilon Trading Classes) pointed out the necessity for suitable buildings on the beach and near the Railway Station to store dutiable articles before taking them to the Customs authorities. The merchants were forced to pay demurrage to boatmen and to the Railway for detention, and sometimes the goods got damaged by being exposed to sun and rain. The Member therefore urged that godowns should be built on the beach, as well as near the Railway Station, for facilitating trade. He also proposed that the roads on both sides of the canal, from Kochupilamoodu to Sanjayakadavu, be opened for traffic and that boat basins be constructed here and there on the canal.

Dewan.—The Government have called for an estimate for a godown on the beach.

52. The improvement of the Parur market by extending it

Mr. A. Govinda Menon, B. A. (Member, Parur taluk) said that the place where the market was held was dirty and narrow.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly